

AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE

RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF: FEBRUARY 20, 2007

DEPARTMENT: CITY ATTORNEY

DIRECTOR: BRADFORD R. JERBIC

☐ Consent ☒ Discussion

SUBJECT:

NEW BILL:

Bill No. 2007-7 – Amends solid waste and recycling regulations by updating service charges, adding charges for overflow collections, eliminating charges for discontinuing service, deregulating charges for competitive-service areas, increasing frequency-of-service options, authorizing pilot programs for recycling, adding customer service standards, revising late-payment charges, adding minimum container requirements, and facilitating recycling by materials recovery facilities. Proposed by: Mark R. Vincent, Director of Finance and Business Services

Fiscal Impact

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No Impact

☐

Augmentation Required

☐

Budget Funds Available

Amount:

Funding Source:

Dept./Division:

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND:

This bill will make the City's regulations consistent with State law, Health District regulations, and the Clark County and Henderson Codes. This bill will: (1) update, but not increase, basic service charges; (2) increase frequency-of-service options for businesses; (3) establish minimum container requirements for non-residential customers; (4) add overflow charges for collecting overflowing waste; (5) eliminate discontinuation-of-service charges; (6) deregulate rates for categories of waste for which competitive markets exist (e.g., construction or demolition waste); (7) facilitate recycling of construction or demolition waste, and authorize other pilot programs to increase recycling; (8) revise late-payment charges for residential customers; and (9) add customer service requirements.

RECOMMENDATION:

This bill should be submitted to a Recommending Committee for review, hearing and recommendation to the City Council for final action.

BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

1. Bill No. 2007-7
2. Business Impact Statement

Motion made by STEVEN D. ROSS to Approve as a Do Pass

Passed For: 2; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 0

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LOIS TARKANIAN, STEVEN D. ROSS; (Against-None); (Abstain-None); (Did Not Vote-None); (Excused-None)

Minutes:

COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN declared the Public Hearing open.

CHRIS WARE, Franchise Officer, Finance and Business Services, noted that, with regard to solid waste, the City's code was last updated prior to 2004, and there were significant differences between jurisdictions. But, even after the update, things continued to evolve, and changes were made by Henderson and Clark County. City staff has worked closely with Clark County and Henderson toward achieving uniformity. MR. WARE then outlined the code changes, as described under the Purpose/Background section.

COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN asked how staff would ensure Republic Services' compliance with pick-up schedules in order to avoid overflow pick-ups. She explained that she has received many complaints about trash not being picked up, causing overflow. MR. WARE replied that there is no perfect solution, but the proposed bill states that Republic Services is not authorized to charge if the overflow is caused by a missed pick-up. Changes in procedure will require that a Republic supervisor follow-up to verify the overflow. There is a provision that City staff, if deemed appropriate, can require Republic to waive overflow charges.

COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN stated that the key factor is for building owners to immediately report missed pick-ups.

MR. WARE then pointed out some of the more significant changes proposed in the bill: 1) an overflow charge of \$30; 2) an increase in the late fee from 71 cents a quarter to \$3 a quarter for residential customers; 3) a requirement that all businesses have 96-gallon plastic mobile containers with wheels; 4) timelines for Republic Services to respond to customer-service calls; 5) approval by the City of alternative pick-up locations in cases where the original site is deemed unsafe.

MR. WARE noted that all the changes would greatly assist City staff in enforcing the code. He thanked BOB COYLE, Republic Services, for his cooperation in drafting the ordinance. MR. WARE recommended approval.

COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN commented that extensive work was done and much appreciated.

MR. COYLE complimented MR. WARE for all his hard work and effort. He did all the work for Henderson and Clark County, because they copied his words. If adopted, the City will have a state-of-the-art solid waste ordinance. COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN noted that MR. WARE is an asset to the City.

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COUNCILMAN ROSS stated that Republic Services has been committed to the City for sometime. Both have worked together to make this a better place to live. He volunteered to start a residential recycling pilot program in his neighborhood.

COUNCILMAN ROSS then asked if residential customers could adjust pick-up schedules as well. MR. WARE replied that such a provision has never been considered and is not included in this bill.

COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN remarked that more changes are necessary, but it is wonderful to see the industry and the City working together to make things better.

COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN declared the Public Hearing closed.

